



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

CONFIDENTIAL

April 19, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Possible Invitation for General Vaquero
to Visit the United States

In her memorandum of March 28, Ms. Dodson inquired how the Department plans to carry out the V-B-B decision to invite General Vaquero to the United States.

In accordance with his instructions from the Secretary, Ambassador Smith, during his visit to Buenos Aires, explored the possibility of such an invitation and received a positive response. During the large formal meeting at the Foreign Ministry, chaired by Foreign Minister Pastor, he mentioned our willingness to extend an invitation in general terms, without identifying General Vaquero by name, in deference to Argentine inter-service rivalries. Ambassador Smith also stated that the invitation assumed developments in regard to human rights and U.S.-Argentine relations would continue favorably. Foreign Minister Pastor responded positively, stating that he considered this a most encouraging development.

During subsequent encounters with General Vaquero and other Argentine military and civilian leaders, Ambassador Smith made clear that we had in mind an invitation to General Vaquero. They all reacted favorably.

General Vaquero's host during his visit to the U.S. will be U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff, General Vessey. DOD has proposed that General Vaquero be invited to make the visit in late August, the only remaining period the JCS has still available for a visit of this kind during the remainder of the year.

Department of State, A/GIS/PS/SRP

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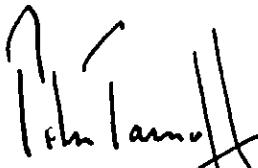
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We are planning to give clearance in principle to DOD for a visit in August, with the understanding that the issuance of a formal invitation be deferred until early June.



Peter Tarnoff
Executive Secretary

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